



Dads, Dare to Discipline

Shepherd the Heart and Shape the Will Without Breaking the Spirit

Father's Day • Ephesians 6:4

FACT #1 Every parent recognizes the **NEED** to discipline their children.

*The question is **how** to do it in a way that will **draw** our kids closer to us and to our God, rather than **drive** them farther away.*

FACT #2 No parent is **PERFECT** in disciplining their children.

*Parents are the lesser lights like the moon which are to **reflect** the greater light of the one Sun.*

FACT #3 Only our heavenly Father can **TRANSFORM** a child's heart through His Son and by His Spirit.

*But our sovereign, heavenly Father uses **means** and one of those means is parental discipline led by the father of the household.*

Dads, Be **DIFFERENCE MAKERS** Who Dare to Discipline God's Way!

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline (training) and instruction (admonition) of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

Dare to Discipline God's Way

1. Dad, **LEAD THE WAY** in Discipline.

"Fathers..."

Ephesians 6:1 Greek word for "**parents**" is plural referring to both father and mother.

Ephesians 6:4 Greek word for "**father**" refers to the husband who as the head of the home leads with sacrificial love and humble service.

Affirms a Christocentric Complementarity

In Christ husband and wife are equal in value, dignity, and worth but different in roles and responsibilities in marriage and ministry.

*Dads, you are to lead the way in disciplining **GOD'S** way **not** your way or the highway!*

You Can't Lead God's Way Unless You...

- **KNOW** the way: Understand discipline from your heavenly Father's perspective according to His principles.
- **SHOW** the way: Undergird discipline with your heavenly Father's presence.
- **GROW** the way: Undertake discipline with your heavenly Father's power.
- **GO** the way: Underscore the discipline in your home with your heavenly Father's purposes.
Colossians 1:28; Hebrews 12:10

2. Dad, Carry Out Discipline on **CHRIST'S BEHALF**.

"Fathers...bring them up in the discipline...of the Lord."

Psalms 127:1-2

*A well-ordered and disciplined home requires mutual **SUBMISSION**.*

"...submitting to one another in the fear of God!" Ephesians 5:21

Many Men Are “Missing in Action” When It Comes to Discipline due to Being...

- Relationally **ABSENT**
- Spiritually **PASSIVE**
- Personally **SELF-ABSORBED**

Fathers Are MIA When They...

- ☐ Lack **compassion**.
- ☐ Lack **consistency**.
- ☐ Lack **cooperation**.
- ☐ Lack **commitment**.
- ☐ Lack **courage**.
- ☐ Lack **CHRIST!**

3. Dad, Be UNDER CONTROL When You Discipline.

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger...”

*A well-ordered and disciplined home requires being **SPIRIT-FILLED**.*

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,” Ephesians. 5:18

4. Dad, SURROUND Your Discipline with Godly Instruction.

“Fathers...bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

The Top Two Priorities of Dad’s Who Are Difference Makers

DISCIPLINE your children with the Lord and **DISCIPLE** your children in the Lord.

Rules (*discipline*) **without** relationship (*instruction*) **equals** **REBELLION!**

Relationship (*instruction*) **without** rules (*discipline*) **equals** **REGRET!**

5. Dad, Discipline for God’s GLORY and Your Children’s GOOD.

“Fathers...bring them up....the Lord.”

Dad’s, You Are the Difference Maker in Your Home When You Dare to Discipline God’s Way!

- ☒ I will begin to **lead the way** God’s way when it comes to discipline in our home.
- ☒ I will **learn to discipline** like my heavenly Father disciplines me.
- ☒ I will be **under the control** of the Holy Spirit when I discipline.
- ☒ I will surround my discipline with **loving instruction**.
- ☒ I will pursue discipline for **God’s glory** and **my children’s good**.